



# *Giving the Gift of Language*

SUMMER 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Director

Diane Portnoy

### Co-Founders

Diane Portnoy

Joan Broude

### Board of Trustees

Arthur G. Koumartzelis,  
Chairman

Frank J. Bailey

Joel G. Beckman

Daniel Bridges

Fatima Z. Chibane,

ILC Instructor

Richard A. Davey, Jr.

Patrick Donelan

Penny Garver

Roger F. Harris, Ph.D.

Marcia Drew Hohn, Ph.D.,

ILC Director of Public Education

Holly G. Jones,

ILC Guidance Counselor

Esther N. Karinge

Joseph F. Lawless

Gerard M. Martin

Richard M. O'Keefe

Barry M. Portnoy

Vincent J. Rivers

John Schneider

Jason Silverman

Kathy G. Smith,

ILC Director of Development

Reena I. Thadhani

Stanley J. Usovicz, Jr.

Sonny X. Vu

Anne L. Williams

### Staff

Mehrnoush Bakhshandeh

Sandy Bornstein

Daniel Doherty

Doreen Eramian

Louise Fassett

Ewa Goodman

Susan Haley

Kathleen Klose

Peggy Loudon

Alan May

Cathy Nandhavan

Carmen Nistor

Karen Oakley

Marianne Pesce

Norma Portnoy

Diana Rajoo

Susan Rojas

Rita Savytska

Leonid N. Sidorov

Jean Smith

Marcia Spector

Dear Friends,

As I watch our students learn English and then go on to start businesses, find jobs, go to college, become citizens and encourage their children to do well in school and think big, I realize we are part of a larger story. Immigrants come to this country with skills, knowledge, drive and ingenuity that have always positively impacted the country, the economy and our communities.

One student owns a grocery store. As ILC research shows, immigrant entrepreneurs of small neighborhood businesses revitalize depressed communities. Actually, 61.1% of new businesses in Massachusetts are immigrant-owned. They create jobs and are the main engine of the economy.

Another student plans on becoming a nurse. She will become part of the largest employment sector in Massachusetts, which along with social assistance, employed half a million people in 2005 and generated \$29 billion in sales. Immigrants fill critical vacancies. Half of all Medical Scientists and 40% of Pharmacists in Massachusetts are immigrants.

One former student started a biotechnology company. Immigrants are founders of 25.7% of all biotechnology firms in Massachusetts that created 4,000 jobs and \$7.6 billion in revenue in 2006 alone.

A fourth student became a U.S. citizen this year. Her son just graduated from Northeastern University with a degree in electrical engineering. Nationally over 50% of all Bachelor Degrees in electrical engineering are immigrants; 70% of all PhD's are immigrants.

Seven of us that work at the school including five ILC teachers are immigrants.

Each student at the school has the same hopes and dreams you have or your immigrant families had: go to college or technical school, support the family and educate the children.

Your support not only makes individual lives better but makes the United States better. Thank you for helping The ILC educate immigrants and promote immigrants as assets.

Best wishes,

Diane

The ILC is a not-for-profit learning center that provides free English classes for adult immigrants and refugees. The mission is to give immigrants and refugees enough knowledge of English to pursue educational, employment and personal goals and become successful workers, parents and community members. The ILC also educates the public about the positive impact immigrants have on our country, economy and communities.

## ILC SCHOOL NEWS

The ILC bid a fond farewell to **Gayathri Arumugham** and welcomes **Norma Portnoy** as an Associate Director of Development.

Congratulations to **Ewa Goodman**, Assistant to The ILC Director of Public Education, and her husband, **Brian**, on the birth of their first child, **Naomi**, who was born May 8th, weighed six pounds, six ounces and pronounced “beautiful” by her proud dad.

### International Day



ILC students pulled out all the stops for this year's International Day, which was held on April 2nd. Over 200 students, their families and guests from the Greater Malden community were treated to delicious food, dazzling performances, colorful attire and stirring music.

### ILC offers “Navigation Express” Class

In response to the changing needs of its students, this summer The ILC is offering a six-week “**Navigation Express Class**” designed for high-level students who need just a push over the threshold to be able to function in English for job interviews, doctors' visits and other daily life needs. Students will learn to write resumes, role-play job interviews and access information on higher education and scholarships.

### ILC Website Gets Extreme Makeover

The ILC is pleased to announce that the website has an exciting new look with updated content and easier navigation. Many thanks to the staff at Mystic View Design and The ILC for their outstanding collaboration on this project, which took several months to complete. The ILC now has the ability to update the content more frequently to keep a fresh look. We invite you to visit the website at [www.ilctr.org](http://www.ilctr.org) and give us your feedback. Happy Browsing!

### ILC Student Participates in National Survey



**Domingo Perez** has been an ILC student for almost two years and is a native of the Dominican Republic. He advanced from the Family Literacy class to the Theater class and is now in the Afternoon Program. He has been an employee of Whole Foods since 2006 and currently works in the produce department displaying produce and answering customers' questions in English. This is a promotion for him. He previously worked in the stock room because he did not have enough English skills to work on the floor with customers. Recently, he was randomly selected by his employer to participate in a national survey to determine Fortune magazine's 2010 list of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” conducted by the Great Place to Work Institute. Companies submit surveys completed by their employees to the Institute in hopes of being included on this prestigious list. The anonymous survey, which resembles an SAT exam, consists of 58 questions about employer benefits, salary, management, work-life balance, co-workers, advancement and working environment. It also includes two narrative questions on what makes the company a great place to work for and what could be done to make it even better. Congratulations to Domingo on doing a great job at Whole Foods and in his studies at The ILC.

## NEW CITIZENS

The ILC congratulates the following students who received their citizenship between January 15 and July 15, 2009: **Hifonia Jean Baptiste, Elkabira Yamani, Kezhong Shi, Jesula Sylvestre, Larisa Myachina, Mayya Matikhina, Bernadette Enozil, Jacqueline St. Louis, Margarida Felix, Diana Glikman** and **Emrith Jean-Pierre**.

# DONORS

It is with our deepest thanks that we recognize the following individuals, community groups, corporations and foundations that made financial and in-kind contributions to The ILC between January 16 and July 15, 2009. In addition, The ILC thanks all donors who made contributions in memory of Blanche Portnoy.

## INDIVIDUALS

George Behrakis  
Mr. and Mrs. David Blackman  
Shirley S. Blue  
Sandy and Ethan Bornstein  
Jamila and Stuart Bornstein  
Tam Van Bui  
Rosa Cappuccio  
Eddie Cassel  
Fatima Chibane  
Ha Chung  
Jennifer and Bill Clark  
Alison D'Amario

George Danis  
Patricia Degroot, in memory of  
mother and grandmother  
Timothy W. DeLessio  
Gina Matarazzo and Frank DeTorto  
Patrick Dinardo  
Imelda and Patrick Donelan  
Eileen N. Doohar, in memory  
of Simon Katz  
Richard A. Doyle  
Adelina Drumond  
Doreen Eramian

### FRIENDS OF THE ILC

Max G. Gandman, in memory  
of Leah Gandman  
Pat and Paul Giblin  
Eva and Brian Goodman  
Phebe and Louis Goodman  
Nancy S. Grodberg  
Susan and Michael Haley

Tom Hargrave, Cisco  
Maureen and John Harrington  
Kathleen Klose and Jay Harris  
Lynne and David Hegarty  
Janice J. Higgins  
Neil C. Higgins  
Marcia D. Hohn  
Van Gia Hong  
Miriam and David Horton  
Priscilla and Frank Hundley  
Lenora and James Jennings  
Holly Jones  
Vaia I. and Arthur G. Koumantzelis  
Sergiy Kurylo  
Vern D. Larkin  
Frances and Joe Lawless  
Tao Le  
Michelle and David Lepore  
Shari and Michael Linskey  
Joanie and Bruce Mackey  
Katherine A. Mahoney  
Don Malkin  
Carmel Shields and John Mannix  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger M. Marino  
Jacqueline and Alan May  
Karen Oakley and John Merrick  
Renate and Patrick Merlino  
Tammy and Adam Milsky  
Jane and John Murray  
Joan and Francis Murphy  
Stella and Charles Nahatis  
Carmen and Marian Nistor  
Alexander A. Notopoulos

Thomas M. O'Brien  
Katherine and Richard Pearl  
Marianne Pesce  
John C. Popeo  
Elika and Adam Portnoy  
Diane and Barry Portnoy  
Norma Portnoy  
Karen and Andrew Rebholz  
Kate and Richard Richardson  
Natalie E. Ripp  
Susan Rojas  
Diana D. Schwalbe  
Ann and Bill Sheehan  
Sonia and Jason Silverman  
Kin Sin  
Jody E. Skiest, in memory of Bella Babbini  
Kathy G. Smith  
Zhanna Stalbo  
Lee C. Steele  
David Sydney  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Teller  
Sakina Paige and Jamal Thomas  
Joseph and Kristine Trusty in honor  
of Anne Williams  
Kathleen Tullberg  
Jennifer and Davide Visco  
Anne and Neil Walsh  
Ruth and Morris Watkins  
Judy and Jeffrey Wisnia  
Christopher J. Woodard  
Mark Young  
Zhan Ping Zhang  
Larysa Zhelenska

## COMMUNITY GROUPS, CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Access Investigations, Inc.  
Adelaide Breed Bayrd Foundation  
BNY Mellon Wealth Management  
Bank of America Foundation  
Boston Private Bank & Trust Company  
Boston Steel & Manufacturing Co.  
Carlson Hotels Worldwide  
Caturano and Company Foundation  
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies  
Citizens Bank  
City of Malden, Mayor Richard C. Howard  
City of Medford  
Committee to Elect Gary Christenson  
Cooley Manion Jones LLP  
Cypress Capital Management LLC  
DTZ FHO Partners  
Eastdil Secured LLC  
Ernst & Young LLP  
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care  
Hillsboro Ocean Club  
Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP  
Hyatt Hotels Management Corporation

ING  
Integro  
InterContinental Hotels Group  
Ipswich Investment Management Co.  
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC  
Jones Lang LaSalle  
LandAmerica Lawyers Title  
Liberty Mutual  
Longfellow Financial LLC  
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.  
Malden Industrial Aid Society  
Marriott International  
Marsh USA, Inc.  
Merrill Corporation  
Metro North Regional Employment Board  
Mystic Valley Elder Services and the  
Massachusetts Executive Offices of Elder  
Affairs  
Mystic View Design  
New England Coffee Company  
North Atlantic Medical Services, Inc.  
Old Republic National Commercial Title

& Settlement Services  
Orion Commercial Ins. Services, Inc.  
RBC Capital Markets  
Reit Management & Research LLC  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
Sherin and Lodgen LLP  
Shields Health Care Group  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom  
Stanhope Garage, Inc.  
Stevens and Ciccone Associates, P.C.  
Streetwear, Inc.  
Sullivan & Worcester LLP  
The Gables at Winchester  
The ILC Theater Class  
TJX Foundation  
UBS Investment Bank  
Wachovia Foundation  
World Education, Inc.  
Yawkey Foundation II

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation supported by tax-deductible charitable contributions and, in part, by funding from The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Mystic Valley Elder Services, Inc. and the Massachusetts Executive Offices of Elder Affairs, and the cities of Malden and Medford, Massachusetts. The ILC admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin or disability.

## FOCUS ON FUNDERS

### Nancy Grodberg

Nancy Grodberg is a long-time supporter of The ILC. She heard about the school through her employer, Sullivan and Worcester, where she is an attorney. For Nancy, The ILC implements a number of ideals that are important to her such as recognition of the hardship immigrants face when they come to America and their desire for independence and self-sufficiency. She admires the strength and courage of immigrants who make the tremendous sacrifices to start over from scratch in America. She appreciates that it must be very difficult for immigrants to leave their native countries, learn a new language and culture and raise children under these trying conditions. She is also inspired by Diane Portnoy's story of coming to America as a very young child and by her long-term commitment to helping other immigrants through the establishment and growth of The ILC. Nancy believes that The ILC is an ever evolving program designed to give immigrants English language proficiency and the other tools that they need to face their every day challenges and also to accomplish their goals and dreams in this country. Nancy looks forward to her continued commitment and support of The ILC.



### ILC Receives "Community Quarterback Award"

The ILC was one of 49 Massachusetts non-profit organizations awarded Eastern Bank's 2009 "Community Quarterback Award" on March 24th at UMass Boston. Former New England Patriots Quarterback **Doug Flutie** (pictured left) was on hand to present the award to **Diane Portnoy** along with Eastern Bank's Chairman and CEO **Richard E. Holbrook**. Go ILC!

## BOARD NEWS

The ILC welcomes five new members to the Board of Trustees: **Joel G. Beckman** (Nystrom Beckman & Paris LLP), **Daniel F. Bridges** (Retired, Belmont Hill School; ILC Volunteer), **John Schneider** (MassINC), **Stanley J. Usovicz, Jr.** (Verizon) and **Anne L. Williams** (Washington Mills Corporation).

Congratulations to **Frank J. Bailey** who was appointed a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Massachusetts and to **Fatima Z. Chibane** who was a 2009 YWCA Malden "Tribute to Women" Honoree.

The ILC also congratulates **Anne Williams** on her marriage to **Kevin Mohan** on July 11, 2009.

The ILC regretfully accepted the resignation of long-time member **Leon M. Cangiano, Jr.** (Inland Underwriters Insurance Agency, Inc.). The school is deeply grateful to him for his many years of devoted service and support.

The school was deeply saddened to hear the news of the death of **Thomas P. McDermott** who died while on vacation in January. The Board and the school extend its condolences to his wife, Maria, and her family. Tom's years of dedicated service and support to the school will be remembered with great fondness.

**Esther Karinge** and her son, **Nicholas**, both received a 2009 "Courage Award" from the Association of the Kenyan Diaspora on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the Braintree Sheraton Hotel. Esther received her award for the work she has done raising a special needs child and being an advocate for other parents of special needs children. Nicholas, age 13, received his "Courage/Rising Star" Award for achieving excellence in school and in his life despite having Cerebral Palsy.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

### ILC Summer Forum for Teachers



Pictured above are some of the twenty-two teachers who gathered for a two-day forum on “Teaching Immigration Across the Curriculum” on July 8 & 9 at The ILC. The teachers came from all different educational settings in Greater Boston including elementary and secondary schools, Adult Basic Education/ESOL classrooms and community-based programs. The forums include the timeline of U.S. immigration; immigration history; the sociology of immigration and facilitating the debate about the benefit and burden to immigration. The forums are offered twice a year for two days each and award Professional Development Points to teachers who complete required tasks.

### ILC Press Conference



**Dr. Alan-Clayton Matthews**, pictured above, presented the latest ILC-commissioned research study “**Massachusetts Immigrants by the Numbers: Demographic Characteristics and Economic Footprint**” to over 50 participants at an ILC press conference held June 25, 2009, at the State House. Media coverage has been excellent including major pieces by WBUR (Boston Public Radio) and the Boston Globe. The study is based on 2007 census data. The study shows that immigrants paid state income taxes at a higher rate than their percentage of the population and pour billions into the state tax systems including \$346 million in sales and excise taxes and \$1.2 billion in property taxes in single years alone. The study is available on The ILC website at [www.ilctr.org](http://www.ilctr.org). Print copies are also available and can be obtained by emailing Marcia Hohn at [mhohn@ilctr.org](mailto:mhohn@ilctr.org).

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### MARCIA DREW HOHN



A bright spot on the 2nd floor of The ILC houses the office of **Marcia Drew Hohn, EdD**, our Director of Public Education. With many accomplishments in her background, including 12 years as Director of Northeast SABES (System for Adult Basic Education Support), Marcia joined The ILC in the summer of 2003. Her position was created to expand the school’s mission to include “promoting immigrants as assets to America.” Marcia brought extensive experience in systems development, research and recognized leadership in the emerging field of literacy and health.

Marcia developed the Public Education Program. This program includes professional development of K-12 and community-based educators on teaching immigration; promoting the “Immigrant Theater Group” where ILC students write and perform plays about their immigrant experiences; and directing ILC-commissioned research studies about immigrants as entrepreneurs, consumers and workers.

The Public Education Program continues to highlight the economic and social contributions made by immigrants in Massachusetts and nationwide through research by university teams. To date, six studies have been published including the latest release “Massachusetts Immigrants by the Numbers: Demographic Characteristics and Economic Footprint” that provides actual statistics on taxes paid, wages, consumer spending and home ownership. This study and other ILC-commissioned studies informed policy recommendations given by the Governor’s Advisory Council on Immigrants to Governor Patrick for the “New Americans Agenda.” Marcia was appointed by Governor Patrick to sit on the Governor’s Council and was active in developing the “New Americans Agenda.” She is currently hard at work overseeing the development of a “Super Website” to host or link to comprehensive and credible research about immigrants and planning a symposium on immigrant entrepreneurship.

Thank you, Marcia, for six years of important contributions to the school.

# ILC SPECIAL EVENTS

## ILC's Eleventh Annual Golf Classic Scores a Hole-In-One

On Monday, June 15, 2009, The ILC hosted 129 golfers at the Kernwood Country Club in Salem, MA, for the school's eleventh annual tournament. Unlike last year, golfers enjoyed partly sunny skies and gentle breezes. The day included a barbecue lunch, reception, clambake dinner, silent and live auctions and a raffle. Proceeds from this sold-out event directly support ILC programs and student services. This year's event brought in over \$265,000. In light of the current economic downturn, this fundraising event scored a hole-in-one! The ILC is deeply grateful to all sponsors and Friends of The ILC, especially lead sponsors the law firm of **Sullivan & Worcester** and **Reit Management & Research LLC** for making this event such a success. The school also thanks the golfers who came from near and far and ILC staff and volunteers for their continued support. The ILC looks forward to another great event on June 7, 2010, at the Kernwood Country Club.

### Best Ball Division Winners



1st Gross with a 67 went to Jim, John and Mike Kaloyanides and Jamie Dostou.



1st Net with a 57 was won by Charles Nahatis, Dennis Frolon, Mike Ciccone and Gary Stevens.

### Scramble Division



1st place went to Steve Lundin, John Popeo and Nick Nonca with 67.



2nd Place, also with 67, went to Henry Katz, Jeff Mazzone, Kevin Delbridge and Len Nolan.

### Save The Date Thursday, November 12, 2009

This is an opportunity not to be missed! This year The ILC's Autumn Benefit will take place in the historic South End on Thursday, November 12th. The evening will feature a pre-concert dinner at the highly-acclaimed **Sibling Rivalry Restaurant** featuring dueling chef brothers David and Bob Kinkead followed by a performance of **Maureen McGovern's** hit show "A Long and Winding Road" at **The Calderwood Pavilion**.